



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.157/PC/46/Add.4
8 September 1992

Original: ENGLISH

WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Preparatory Committee
Third session
Geneva, 14-18 September 1992
Item 7 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE AND DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE FINAL OUTCOME

Recommendations concerning the provisional agenda
of the World Conference on Human Rights and its
preparation submitted pursuant to paragraph 10 of
General Assembly resolution 45/155

Report of the Secretary-General

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RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS

Baha'i International Community
International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities
International Council of Jewish Women
International Movement for Fraternal Union Among Races and Peoples
Soroptimist International
World Federation of Methodist Women
Zonta International

JOINT STATEMENT BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE
STATUS FOR THE THIRD PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE WORLD
CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. The above-mentioned non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council highly commend resolution 1992/4 on discrimination against women adopted by consensus by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on 14 August 1992.
2. We strongly urge that the Preparatory Committee at its third session endorse this resolution and make the "discrimination affecting women and their status" a priority item for the World Conference on Human Rights.
3. We draw the Preparatory Committee's attention to the valuable information on this matter gathered both by the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), including information on persistent inequalities with regard to women's socio-economic status, health, and participation in civil and political life. In this regard, we call attention to those adverse societal attitudes and traditional practices which persist in many societies and which perpetuate discrimination and gender inequality (see also A/CONF.157/PC/24). Among the most persistent problems in this respect is widespread violence against women in all its forms.
4. Recognizing that coordination among bodies monitoring human rights is essential for the protection of human rights, we strongly urge that existing measures for coordination be further strengthened. In particular, we stress the need for stronger linkages between CEDAW and other bodies monitoring human rights throughout the United Nations system.
5. We therefore consider that the implementation of the above-mentioned resolution is critical for the advancement of human rights and the success of the forthcoming World Conference on Human Rights.
